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- e) at least one source radiation blocking panel, positioned between the source radiation focusing and collimating means and the sample, for blocking extraneous radiation of the beam of focused light and the emitted light, said panel having at least one pinhole wherethrough source radiation can pass, said pinhole provided in a position adjacent to the sample such that focused and collimated source radiation is directed onto the sample.

2. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 1 wherein the sample platform comprises at least one microfabricated channel, or a microfabricated array electrophoresis chip, or at least one capillary column, or at least one flow cell.

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9. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 1 wherein a plurality of pinholes are disposed on the source radiation blocking panel at predetermined distances, said predetermined distance being the distance or a multiple of the distance between the samples arranged in an array.

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14. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 1 wherein the emitted radiation focusing means comprises a convergent cylindrical rectangular lens.

15. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 14 wherein the source radiation blocking panel is provided with a plurality of pinholes.

Please cancel Claim 20.

Please amend Claims 21, 27 and 30 as follows:

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21. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 17 further comprising a second emitted radiation blocking panel with at least one pinhole disposed between the second emitted radiation focusing means and the second photodetector, said pinhole wherethrough collimated second higher wavelength radiation can pass.

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27. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 5, 9, 13, 16 or 24 wherein said source radiation blocking panel is made of radiation absorbing material; and scanning means, connected to said source radiation blocking panel, are provided for shifting the source radiation blocking panel at predetermined distances and predetermined time intervals, said predetermined distance being the distance or a multiple of the distance between the different samples arranged in an array; and said predetermined time

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interval being the time used to collect emitted radiation from each sample via said pinhole.

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30. (amended) An optical detection system according to claim 1, 9, 13, 16 or 24 wherein a plurality of pinholes are disposed on the source radiation blocking panel at predetermined distances, said predetermined distance being the distance or a multiple of the distance between the samples arranged in an array.

Please add Claim 41, as follows:

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41. (newly added) An optical detection system according to claim 1, wherein the pinhole is movable relative to the source radiation focusing and collimating means and the sample platform.
